



Patent Application Number: 10/007,585

Attorney Docket Number: Analog.5721-5

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Election
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Timothy R. SPOONER et al. GROUP: 2811
SERIAL NO: 10/007,585 EXAMINER: N. Parekh
FILED: December 5, 2001

FOR: A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROTECTING MICRO
ELECTROMECHANICAL SYSTEMS STRUCTURES
DURING DICING OF A WAFER

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

In response to the Office Action mailed April 3, 2003, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has alleged that the presently pending claims are directed to two (2) separate groups of inventions. More specifically, the Examiner alleges that Group I is drawn to a semiconductor device, and Group II is drawn to a method for making a semiconductor device. In view of these allegations, the Examiner has subjected claims 1-60 to a two-way restriction requirement. This restriction requirement by the Examiner is respectfully traversed.

In formulating the restriction requirement, the Examiner alleges that the unpatentability of the claims of Group I would not necessarily imply the unpatentability of the claims of Group II since the devices of Group I claims can be made by processes different from those of Group II. This position by the Examiner is unfounded.

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